

**Weekly Status & Information Report:
Week of August 6 - August 10, 2007**

- 1. PLAN TO ATTEND - New Hampshire Avenue Corridor Design Charrette - Tuesday, August 14, through Monday, August 20 (Wards 2, 3, and 6):** You are invited to participate in the upcoming New Hampshire Avenue Corridor design charrette, a week-long public workshop which will result in the development of detailed build-out plans for commercial areas, streetscape improvements and new roadway configurations along the corridor. The project area includes all commercially zoned properties along New Hampshire Avenue between Eastern Avenue and Sligo Creek Parkway. The opening presentation will be given on Tuesday, Aug 14 at 7 pm in the Auditorium here at the Community Center with follow up presentations and public reviews scheduled for Wednesday and Friday night (7:00 to 9:30 pm). Individual stakeholder meetings are also planned. For more information, please check the City's website at <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/gateway/index.html>. There you will find a copy of the week's schedule, an overview of the charrette process and links to resources. The site includes a comments form for those who are unable to attend. Your comments will be emailed directly to the project team. The team's final designs and plans will be available shortly afterwards. *(Housing and Community Development Department)*
- 2. Transportation to New Hampshire Avenue Corridor Design Charrette (Wards 2, 3, and 6):** Interested in participating in the upcoming charrette but not sure how to get there? A City shuttle bus will pick up participants at various Ride-On/WMATA bus stops on the southbound (towards DC) side of New Hampshire Avenue prior to each evening event (Tuesday Aug 14, Wednesday Aug 15 and Friday Aug 16). We will also bring you back once the meetings have ended. The pick-up schedule can be found on the City's website at <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/gateway/index.html> or by calling 301.891.7119. *(Housing and Community Development)*
- 3. Election Services Demonstration:** A vendor will demonstrate election services / ballot counting for the Board of Elections and any other interested individuals on Tuesday, August 21, 2007. The demonstration will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center Azalea Room. Contact Jessie Carpenter for more information. *(City Clerk)*
- 4. Grant Avenue Sidewalk Construction (Ward 1):** Preparation work for the sidewalk construction on Grant from Holly Avenue to the dead-end is underway. This project is funded through a Safe Routes To School grant. The removal of several trees took place this week and construction is scheduled to begin August 16. *(Public Works)*
- 5. Sewer Line Replacement (Ward 1):** WSSC will begin sewer line replacement on Holly Avenue beginning near the Dogwood Avenue intersection and extending 300 feet toward Tulip Avenue. According to WSSC's routine camera inspection, this sewer line is cracked in several places and the pipe is very small. *(Public Works)*
- 6. Water Line Replacement on Lincoln Avenue (Wards 3 & 4):** A WSSC contractor, Callahan Pipeline, will begin replacement of the water main on Lincoln Avenue the week of August 13. Work is to begin on Lincoln Avenue at Jackson Avenue, and proceed up Lincoln to Carroll Avenue. Lincoln Avenue will be closed to through traffic during excavation and a detour will be set up. The contractor will continue water main

replacement on Lincoln from Carroll Avenue to Maple Avenue in the following weeks. The project is expected to take a couple of months. *(Public Works)*

7. Meetings: On August 7, Chief Ricucci attended the National Night Out at VFW on 4th and Orchard Avenues, and at Essex House on 7777 Maple Avenue, and at the Old Toys R Us at New Hampshire and University Avenues. Officer Paula Gaskin was honored with her Officer of the Year plaque by members of the VFW. Nineteen (19) members from the Takoma Park Police Department participated in National Night Out at all three locations. Their interaction with the community was very positive and well received. *(Police)*

8. Traffic Enforcement:

- Officers conducted at least 39 traffic stops this week, which resulted in citations and three arrests, one involving a DUI.
- Affiliated Computer Services (ACS) is still conducting their speed camera study daily from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. and again from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. *(Police)*

9. CSAFE: The first annual Takoma/Langley Crossroads National Night Out on Tuesday, August 7, attracted the attention of local media, residents, police and other community stakeholders from the City of Takoma Park, Montgomery County and Prince George's County. At least 500 residents attended the event throughout the evening. They enjoyed ice cream, music from El Radio Zol 99.1FM, free raffles and a candlelight vigil. Residents also had the opportunity to interact with local police, firefighters and over 20 local organizations that were providing information about crime prevention and safety. CSAFE staff were the lead organizers of the event. *(Police)*

10. CDBG Application Deadline - Monday, August 20 (City-wide): The City of Takoma Park is accepting proposals for the use of its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Grants are awarded for a wide range of community development activities directed toward neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and the provision of improved community facilities and services. Applications are due Monday, August 20 and are available online <http://www.takomaparkmd.gov/hcd/cdbg2/index.html>. For more information, please contact Sara Anne Daines at 301.891.7224 or by email at SaraD@takomagov.org. *(Housing and Community Development Department)*

11. Call for Poetry - Fall Poetry Reading Series (City-wide): The Arts and Humanities Commission is soliciting poets for the upcoming poetry series. The series will start up again this fall and will feature some of the finest poets in the city and surrounding area. If you are interested in being considered for a spot in the series, please send 3-5 poems to the Arts and Humanities Commission at ahc@takomagov.org or by mail to 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park MD 20912. The submission deadline is Tuesday, September 4, 2007. *(Housing and Community Development)*

12. Call for Application - Exhibitions Director (City-wide): The Arts and Humanities Commission is soliciting applications for an experienced individual to coordinate exhibition activities at the Community Center. Responsibilities include the solicitation and review of exhibit proposals, assisting exhibitors in logistical activities; and organizing one show of curatorial and community interest. Applicants should have experience working on exhibition projects and coordinating with volunteers. The selected applicant would serve one year. The Directorship is not a paid position; though an honorarium of

\$2,000 will be awarded. To apply, please send a one-page cover letter, including your vision for the Takoma Park Community Center Exhibitions Program and resume to the Arts and Humanities Commission at 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912 or by email at ahc@takomagov.org Application deadline is Tuesday, September 4, 2007. For more information, please call 301.891.7224. *(Housing and Community Development Department)*

13. Tenant HelpLine (Ward 6): The Office of Tenant and Landlord Affairs participated in Tuesday's National Night Out event held in the Takoma Langley Crossroads. Information on the services provided by the City was provided. Bi-lingual materials distributed by HCD staff members Jean Kerr and Moses Wilds, Jr. included the recently printed "Landlord and Tenant Affairs Handbook", the COLTA hearing brochure, and the "Eat Takoma" guide. Mario Cristaldo, the City's Capacity Building organizer, participated, providing needed translation assistance. This was the first in a series of outreach efforts the Department has planned to provide information to local tenants. If you are planning a neighborhood event and would like to have us attend, please contact Linda Walker at 301.891.7222. *(Housing and Community Development Department)*

14. Rent Stabilization - Annual Rent Reports (City-wide): The annual rent reports were mailed to local landlords this past week. The reports, required by local ordinance, require documentation of rent charges assessed to in-ace tenants, records the date and amount of any rent increase and notes any unused or 'banked' rent increases. The report, due September 30, covers the period between July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. *(Housing and Community Development Department)*

15. Utility Survey of Licensed Rental Facilities (City-wide): Housing staff have begun work on the proposed utility survey supported by the Council during its discussion of the recodificaion of the rent Stabilization ordinance. A sampling of local landlords responsible for the payment of certain utilities have been contacted and asked to submit documentation of past utility expenses. The information gathered during this initial step will be used to develop the framework needed to complete the planned analysis. *(Housing and Community Development)*

16. Bus Stop - ADA Improvements (Ward 1): Work to improve ADA accessibility at the various bus stops continued this week with the County's contractor moving into the Old Takoma Main Street area. The project includes the replacement of sections of the brick sidewalk and as such, portions of the sidewalk will be closed to allow for the completion of the project. *(Housing and Community Development)*

17. Y.E.S. Basketball League Playoffs:

- The Takoma Park Summer Y.E.S. League Playoffs are in full swing and will conclude with two championship games on Thursday, August 16, starting at 7 p.m. These JV and varsity games will be taped by City TV for future broadcast. The JV division has 40 kids playing on 4 teams. The varsity division has 44 participants on 4 teams. The semifinals are on Wednesday, August 15.
- The league's middle school championship will be held on Tuesday, August 14, at 7:30 pm. This division had 60 participants on 6 teams.
- This Friday is a special event that should be great family fun: the Varsity All-Star Game vs. DC Rec, followed by the annual YES League Legends vs. Rec. Staff/Coaches game. We're looking to avenge last year's overtime loss. Tip-off is 8:30 pm.
- Monday, August 13, we have the Middle school and JV All-Star games vs. D.C. Rec,

starting at 6 pm. All games are at Piney Branch Elementary. Check it out!

- City TV will be covering the Y.E.S. League Summer Championships on Thursday, September 16. (*Recreation and City TV*)

18. Creative Adventures Camp: This week concludes the Recreation Department's summer camp season. The Takoma Park Recreation Center and the Takoma Park Community Center hosted an average of 53 campers per week with Creative Adventures and Recess Summer Camps. The campers got to go on some exciting trips: the Maryland Science Center, Cameron Run Water Park, a mini-opera at Wolf Trap and the NASA Goddard to learn about the space program. Other City departments helped out with camp including Karen MacPherson from the Library, who told wonderful stories to the kids, and Troy Fingal from Public Works gave a tour of the PW trucks and the yard. They participated in art, dance, sports and swimming. It was a great season filled with new experiences and new friends! (*Recreation*)

19. Extreme Horizons Camp: The Extreme Horizons teen camp provided by the Recreation Department was able to offer a varied set of experiences for our City's youth. For the first time ever, the Extreme Horizons camp had a waiting list throughout the camp's duration. Teens that participated were ages 10-13 with various backgrounds. This summer's activities and trips included horseback riding, caving, outdoor and indoor rock climbing, museums, Folk Life Festival and visits to amusement parks. Many teens were planning where they would like to go for next year's Extreme Horizon Camp. (*Recreation*)

20. Takoma Park at Night: City TV crews went to the various National Night Out activities on Tuesday August 7th. Interviews and footage from these events will be featured in an upcoming Snapshots. (*City TV*)

21. Pool Closure: The YMCA of Silver Spring announced this week that it will no longer operate the Piney Branch Elementary School swimming pool as of September 3rd. This appears to mean that this recreational resource for Takoma Park residents will be closed. (*City TV*)